



POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

2:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Halepaska, Chairman
Danny Garcia, Vice-Chairman
Paul Reitz
Mike Walsh
Emett Alvarez
Lynn Short
Skip Kaup
Clint Ives

MEMBERS ABSENT

Charmelle Garrett
Fred Watts

STAFF PRESENT

Jared Mayfield, Director of Development Services
Mary Craighead, Senior Transportation Planner
Denyce Beyer, Administrative Assistant

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 9, 2016 meeting were approved as delivered.

2. Citizen Communication

No person wished to speak during citizen communication.

3. Consider approval of the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

a. Staff briefing

Ms. Craighead explained that the TIP is a four year plan that summarizes state and federally funded transportation projects in Victoria County that have secured funding. The only major highway project that is planned for FY 2017 is the construction of frontage roads along the southwest side of Loop 463 between Mockingbird Lane and Business US 59. Several maintenance and less significant projects are listed under Grouped Projects. Loop 463 was added to the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan on November 10, 2015 and Proposition 1 funds are expected to be used for this project.

A Public Review and Comment period was held April 7, 2016 – May 9, 2016. Over the course of the period, three citizens either called or visited the MPO's office to express support for the Loop 463 frontage road project. Two citizens sent emails with concerns over the noise the Loop 463 frontage road project will cause for nearby residential areas.

b. Public Comment Period

No person wished to comment.

c. Formal Action

Mr. Ives made a motion to approve the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Short seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Consider approval of the Draft FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

a. Staff briefing

Ms. Craighead explained that the UPWP is the MPO's one year work program and budget that outlines how the MPO intends to use its allocation of federal transportation planning dollars. The proposed FY 2017 UPWP will cover the period between October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017. The Victoria MPO is expected to receive \$205,000 in planning funds and have \$65,000 carried over from FY 2016. Of these funds, \$100,000 will be set aside for the development of a future Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

b. Public Comment Period

No person wished to comment.

c. Formal Action

Mr. Kaup made a motion to approve the Draft FY 2017 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Alvarez seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. Discuss US 59 frontage roads between Loop 463 and FM 1686 (Telferner).

a. TxDOT briefing

Mike Walsh presented on the proposed design for the US 59 frontage road project between Loop 463 and FM 1686 (Telferner). TxDOT is proposing an overpass at a midpoint of the project. The proposed cost of the project is \$25 million. Public meetings will be held in the future to provide the public additional opportunities to comment on the project.

b. Discussion

Mr. Alvarez stated that the business owners, in addition to property owners, should be notified of the proposed project. Mr. Reitz confirmed that TxDOT will go door-to-door to notify the businesses.

John Crews, Ron Brown Company, expressed that Lone Tree Road should be connected to Hartman Road in a long-range plan. He believes this extension could connect to the existing county road where the overpass is proposed and provide a convenient route for businesses along US 59.

6. Transportation Program Reports

a. Victoria Transit

Linda Ybarbo, Victoria Transit, distributed information on Victoria Transit's FY 2017 budget and proposed decreased services. All Sunday services and Purple Route services will be discontinued. Ms. Ybarbo also stated that Victoria Transit's administrative offices have moved to 1908 N. Laurent Street and the operations offices and buses will move to the same location in July 2016.

b. Highway Projects

Mr. Walsh stated that the US 77 project at the Guadalupe River has continued and they have started work on the bridges. The US 59 frontage road project is expected to be complete within the next month. The project at FM 1432 near the Port of Victoria is expected to be complete in the next week and work on the signal at FM 1432 and SH 185 will begin in the near future.

c. Victoria Airport

Mr. Halepaska explained that Fred Watts was unable to attend today, but the Airport is holding a Family Fun Day the weekend of May 14, 2016.

d. Port of Victoria

Mr. Kaup thanked Mr. Walsh for TxDOT's work on FM 1432. He stated that Old Bloomington Road will be repaired down to Invista and that Canal Road will be finished down to the docks.

7. Items from MPO members

Mr. Walsh stated that TxDOT is hosting a Transportation Improvement Program public meeting at the TxDOT office on US 59 on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 6:00 PM. He stated that the program will cover Jackson, Calhoun, and Victoria Counties.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Approved: _____
Tom Halepaska, Chairman
Victoria Metropolitan Planning Organization

Approved: _____
Danny Garcia, Vice-Chairman
Victoria Metropolitan Planning Organization